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PUBLICATION NOTES AND NOTICES

FAMILIES OF BIRDS. By Oliver L. Austin, Jr. Illustrated by Arthur Singer. Golden Press, New York City, 1971: 4 × 6 in., 200 pp. Many illustrations in color. Paper cover \$1.95, hard cover \$5.95.

An attractive reference book that provides thumbnail sketches of all known orders and families of birds, both living and fossil. A surprising amount of information is contained in a small space. The illustrations, generous in supply, depict species that are typical of their families; they are nicely executed and well printed, and are real aids in characterizing the families. This guide "is designed for those who have familiarity with birds and who would like to know more about their relationships to one another." Distribution, characteristics, and habits are adequately summarized within the limits of the book, but very little is said about relationships. Nevertheless this guide can serve well as a handy reference tool for ornithologists.—P.S.

NATIVE BIRDS OF MT. DESERT ISLAND AND ACADIA NATIONAL PARK. By James Bond. The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, 1971: 5 × 7 in., paper covered, v + 28 pp. \$1.50.

This is the second revised edition of an annotated list of the 138 species of birds that are known to breed or to have bred on Mt. Desert Island and adjacent islands, Maine, during the past 40 years. It is primarily a guide to bird finding in this ornithologically well known area but also gives remarks on the historical status of species.—P.S.

NATIVE AND WINTER RESIDENT BIRDS OF TOBAGO. By James Bond. The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, 1970: 4 × 7 in., paper covered, v + 30 pp. \$1.50.

An annotated list of the nearly 200 species of birds reported from Tobago. This island on the continental shelf of South America has a much richer avifauna than any of the other Antilles of comparable size. Six excursions for finding birds are suggested. The booklet gives aid for identification of indigenous and South American species but it is intended to be used with a field guide.—P.S.